

What's Up @ St. Michael's

Autumn Term - October 2018

Tel: (021) 435 8140 * stmichaelsblackrock@gmail.com

Junior Infants

By now our ten infants Luke, Ruaidhrí, Yann, Dennis, Amelia, Cathy, Ellen, Matilda, Bláithín and Isaac are well settled in and Ms Mythen reports that they love learning - especially their Aistear programme.



School Building

Work is ongoing on the new classroom and is causing minimum disruption to school life. We are assured that building will be completed by January. We will be very glad to have our full playground space back after the build. We will also be glad to have our little library back in action.

Visitors

The Lord Mayor visited us this term and had an important message for our pupils about believing in themselves. He gave each pupil a pencil bearing the slogan as a reminder.



School Funds

We are especially enjoying our lovely outdoor seating area while the dry weather is here. These were paid for by the Parents Association fund raising last year. This is very much appreciated as Department of Education grants only cover the very basic items, so we are dependent on funds raised to provide more diverse experiences and resources for our pupils. This is a challenge for all schools but especially smaller ones.

School is closed from 29 October - 02 November 2018



S.T.E.M

We had loads of fun this year so far and are well on the way to another DPSM award. We had Space themed lessons and experiments for Space Week. For Maths Week we had nature tails and puzzle games as well as a trip to Blackrock Castle Observatory for the senior pupils for a fun maths problem solving workshop. Some of our senior pupils had incredible scores on their Mangahigh Challenge contributing to an all-time maths week record of 370 points for our school!! We will have engineering projects after mid-term including Lego Engineering Workshops for all classes.

After mid-term senior pupils will begin their Animation module using Google CS Resources. Junior pupils have begun basic programming using their Beebots

Active Schools

Pupils from 3rd to 6th classes have really enjoyed their term of cycling lessons with the CycleSense Programme. We have installed bicycle parking in the school shelter, so we hope many more pupils will cycle to school.



Next term they will be rowing with Blackrock Rowing Club. We are very appreciative to Cork Sports partnership for subsidising these opportunities for our pupils. The Parents Association report that there is an increased number of pupils attending Friday swimming this year. Soccer training has also been taking place after school on Mondays. Any boys who would like to play hurling are welcome to attend Blackrock Hurling Club on Saturday mornings. There is camogie for girls on Friday evening also. We have lots of pupils who play with the club. Rockies Abú!!

Parent teacher meetings will take place on the 19/20th November. We will notify you of times after mid-term. By their nature these are short meetings so if you have a particular issue to discuss please arrange an alternative meeting where the necessary time can be given.

This year we are examining and reviewing our approaches to spelling and homework. Your views will be sought throughout the year in the form of surveys. We hope to find an approach/range of approaches which will be appropriate for all pupils. After midterm we will be asking parents to record the amount being spent on homework and their experiences of it.



- Learn It Lego Workshops with all classes on the 21st November as part of Engineers Week.
- We will be joining St. Lukes Douglas for a special Remembrance Day Assembly on the 9th November in St. Luke's Church.
- The Junior Room will be attending the Christmas Panto at Silversprings on the 11th December.
- There will be Carole Singing during the SundayMarket on the 2nd December.
- The Christmas Fayre and Nativity will be held on the 9th December

The senior room have received a Léargas quality award for their last eTwinning projects. Junior room pupils are sending and receiving art work from all over Europe for their project -it is so exciting to see what Fear an Phoist brings!!



Ms Chow visits all classes for music lessons every Thursday and also directs the after-school choir on Thursday afternoons. This is open to all pupils from 1st class upwards. This week the choir attended a singing workshop in the cathedral with other schools from around the city.

Several pupils and families attended the Harvest festival at St Michael's church. They performed the song 'Hey Seed Sower' and afterwards joined the parishioners for refreshments in the old School House, Both the senior and middle rooms have led Friday morning assembly - presenting the stories of Samuel and St Francis.

The Middle Room and Senior Room have been learning all about famous artists. Check out their art in response to Matisse and Giuseppe Arcimboldo

Tá na páistí go léir ag baint an taitneamh as an Gaeilge an bhliain seo. Tá Bua na Cainte ar súil againn suas go rang a trí ! Tá cairde pinn nua ag na daltaí sna hárd ranganna. Tá siadsan ag freastail ar scoil in gCo Cill Dara. Is slí taitneamhach é sin chun feabhas a chur ar an scríobhnóireacht.